

obtained working first as an Assistant District Attorney in New York County and later as a Principal Law Clerk to a Justice of the Supreme Court and the Associate Justice of the Appellate Term in Kings County.

In addition, Ms. Sunshine has been an active member in the Brooklyn Bar Association for seven years while simultaneously serving as a member of the New York Bar Association. Prior to becoming President of the Brooklyn Bar Association, she was recognized in 2001 by former Mayor Rudy Giuliani. He appointed her to his Advisory Committee on the Judiciary. Also, she has been honored with the Distinguished Service Award from the Brooklyn Bar Association. I know that she is an excellent person for this job.

Even with all this activism, Ms. Sunshine still maintains a full family life. She is married to Jeffrey S. Sunshine, the Acting Justice of Richmond County Supreme Court, with two daughters. I am glad to see that though her work and activities are demanding, she is still able to demonstrate the value and importance of family life. I commend her for her ability to achieve.

From the awards, to her public appointment, to her presidential induction, Ms. Sunshine is an all around achiever. I urge my colleagues to join me in honoring this truly remarkable Brooklynite.

#### HONORING ANTONIA PANTOJA

#### HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 4, 2002*

Mr. RANGEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and remember Dr. Antonia Pantoja, who died in New York on May 24th. As a central figure of the Puerto Rican Civil Rights Movement, Dr. Pantoja's kind heart and brilliant leadership will always be remembered.

Dr. Pantoja was born in 1922 to an impoverished Puerto Rican family. Though she spent much of her childhood hungry and diseased, Dr. Pantoja invested all her efforts in education and politics. She fought for a decent education and, in 1940, was accepted to the University of Puerto Rico. Two years later she received a degree in education and became a schoolteacher.

After teaching for a few years in Puerto Rico, Dr. Pantoja moved to New York City. Working as a welder in a lamp factory, Dr. Pantoja suffered racism against Puerto Ricans at its worst. To fight back, she spread information on civil rights and how to organize a union. From that point on she dedicated her life to empowering the Puerto Rican community through organization, leadership, and, above all, education.

Dr. Pantoja really did do what she set out to do. She completed a Bachelor's Degree of the Arts at Hunter College of New York, received a Masters of Social Work from Columbia, and was awarded Ph.D from the Union of Experimental Colleges and Universities in Yellow Springs, Ohio. Meanwhile, she founded a number of Puerto Rican-American organizations including ASPIRA, PRACA, and the National Puerto Rican Forum. She was responsible for the creation of the bilingual college, Universidad Boricua, and the Puerto Rican Research Center, each promoting youth edu-

cation. In Puerto Rico, Dr. Pantoja set up PRODUCIR to help the rural community build up its economy.

In recognition of her outstanding contributions to Puerto Ricans, Dr. Pantoja received numerous awards. In addition to the Hispanic Heritage Award, the Julia de Burgos Award and the National Mujer Award, Dr. Pantoja received the Presidential Medal of Freedom, the highest civilian honor bestowed by the United States of America.

Dr. Antonia Pantoja truly was the highest example for the Puerto Rican community. As a model leader, she valued education, civil rights, and equality of opportunity. Her memory will live forever in respect and dignity.

#### A TRIBUTE TO BALTIMORE SUN REPORTER KAREN HOSLER: A GOOD JOURNALIST, A GOOD FRIEND

#### HON. STENY H. HOYER

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 4, 2002*

Mr. HOYER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to my friend, Karen Hosler, an outstanding reporter at the Baltimore Sun.

Over three decades, Karen has chronicled the political system from small town Maryland to the Nation's Capital, with the Sun as her outlet since 1977.

She and I have traveled through Maryland state and national politics together, although on different sides of the street as reporter and politician.

We both graduated from the University of Maryland, albeit a number of years apart.

After a short stint as a staffer on Capitol Hill, she began her career as a journalist covering county government and politics at a weekly newspaper in the Maryland suburbs of Washington, the Prince George's County News, shortly after my own career in politics had begun in that county as a state senator.

The first time that we met I was a little bit less than friendly to the new reporter at the Prince George's County News. I was frustrated by an unbalanced story written by her predecessor just before the election. But Karen held her ground and we embarked on a relationship based on respect for the other's role in the democratic process that eventually would become a friendship.

Three years later, she joined the staff of a historic daily newspaper in Maryland's capital city of Annapolis, the Capital. Karen covered state politics, including the governor and the state legislature, for the Capital from 1974 to 1977 which matched my election to the presidency of the Maryland State Senate in 1975.

She was always a tough interrogator of a politician. She asked the hard questions that we didn't always like to answer, but she always got it out of us. Karen asked not just what but why. She took her responsibility as a reporter very seriously and her readers were the better for it. They were better informed and better able to make judgments about their representatives, their government and its policies.

In 1977, Karen joined the Sun, one of our country's preeminent newspapers. She began at the Sun where she originally started her career—covering local government.

Two years later, she was back in Annapolis covering politics and state government.

In 1983, Karen moved from Annapolis politics to national politics—after four years on the state political beat, Karen was assigned to cover the Maryland congressional delegation on Capitol Hill. I had been elected to Congress in a special election two years before.

For the next twenty years, she reported from Washington for the Sun from numerous vantage points, while I worked hard to represent the Fifth Congressional District well, and our paths crossed often.

After five years of following the congressional delegation she moved to the White House. Five years later, in 1993, she was back on Capitol Hill as the national congressional correspondent. I was in my fourth year as Chairman of the Democratic Caucus.

In 1998 she became the acting Deputy Washington Bureau Chief directing national, international and Washington regional coverage until January 1999, when she returned to the national political beat.

Now, after thirty years of outstanding political reporting at all levels, Karen is leaving her friends and colleagues in Washington to join the Sun's editorial board in Baltimore.

Karen will bring to the Editorial Board a perspective shaped by three decades of observation and analysis of every level of government.

Thomas Jefferson, who both used the press to proselytize and suffered under opponents' vicious attacks delivered through newspapers, said the following: "... were it left to me to decide whether we should have a government without newspapers or newspapers without a government, I should not hesitate a moment to prefer the latter."

Jefferson knew that the press is an essential cog in democracy's engine, without which our country would not enjoy the quality of government and freedoms it has. It is the men and women behind the newsprint who perform the vital role of examiner of government and act as a crucial source of information for citizens.

Without the hard work and intellect of reporters and editors the vaunted principle of the freedom of the press would surely wither and die.

Karen Hosler, as one such reporter, has contributed immensely to educating the citizenry on local, state and national politics throughout her career at the Baltimore Sun.

I have great respect for Karen, the journalist, who through her political reporting has done more than her share to keep our democracy vital. And, as her friend, I wish her great success in the exciting new challenge on which she now embarks.

I wish Karen Hosler the best of luck in her new position at the Sun, where she will have a broader opportunity than ever before to shape opinion and inform her readers.

#### HONORING THE TENTH ANNIVERSARY OF THE AMERICAN CHAMBER OF COMMERCE IN UKRAINE

#### HON. BOB SCHAFFER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 4, 2002*

Mr. SCHAFFER. Mr. Speaker, on June 6, 2002, the American Chamber of Commerce in